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ABSTRACT

This book argues that democratic education should equip citizens to be "the measure of all things." The volume contends that the voices of society should develop the skills of questioning, criticizing, and reconstructing the language of the day in order to dissect the rhetoric of politics, economy, and culture. But the volume asserts that these are not the skills being encouraged in today's educational reform efforts nor in colleges and universities. Using a variety of sources including the works of John Dewey, Greek drama, postmodernist philosophy, and contemporary educational reform literature, the book presents a conception of education through which the citizens of tomorrow might be readied for the task of lifelong measurement of self and world. Chapters include: (1) "The Politics of Reform"; (2) "The Buried Triangle: Democracy, Philosophy, and Education in Ancient Athens"; (3) "Rousseau and the Education of Restraint"; (4) "The Education of the Sovereign"; (5) "Dewey and the Vocabulary of Growth"; (6) "The Education of Experience: The Politics of Language and Science"; and (7) "Thinking to Learn." (EH)

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